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NBC

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PROGRAM TITLE "UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS" #142 OK

CHICAGO OUTLET NONE

(11:30 - 12:30 PM)
TIME

(MARCH 22, 1935)
DATE

(FRIDAY)
DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers."

ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: "RANGER SONG"

ANNOUNCER: Well, here we go again - up to the National Forest where our friends Ranger Jim Robbins, and his assistant, Jerry Quick, are on the job. Lots of things have been going on up in that neck of the woods. You remember that when the widow, Mrs. Gay purchased the Box-O Ranch near the Pine Cone Distric last year, along with her cattle business she started a dude ranch business, and the parties given at the ranch for the entertainment of the guests have done much to stimulate social activities in the Winding Creek community. Among the winter sports guests was Paul Hosmer, an engineer, who stayed after the winter sports season was over, when he secured work with the Broadacres Irrigation Company which is starting a water development project on the National Forest. Through the machinations of Mrs. Gay, Hosmer made the acquaintance of Mary Halloway, the attractive young school teacher at the Winding Creek school, and has become very attentive to her. These attentions to Mary are, as you might guess, very much resented by Jerry Quick, the assistant ranger. A few days ago Forest Rangers Jim Robbins and Jerry Quick aided a group of cowmen in their search for a cattle rustler who had been stealing Mrs. Gay's fat steers. They traced the crime to one of the Widow's own employees, Bill Snead, now in the custody of the Sheriff.

As we tune in today, Jerry is out on a timber estimating job, and Jim and Bess are in the ranger station office. Here they are --

BESS: Are you going out today, Jim?

JIM: Yes. I think I'll go up to the tunnel camp. Jerry's up there estimating the timber that will have to be cut from the power line right of way. I want to see how he's getting along and I want to see Starr, too.

BESS: Starr? - Oh, that tunnel engineer?

JIM: Yes. Jerry phoned last night that he's going ahead with his camp buildings on that flat at the bottom of the "Big Slide." I warned him not to put it there but he's gone ahead, anyway.

BESS: Why don't you want him to put it there, Jim?

JIM: Why it's the worst spot on Spring Creek for snow slides. That's the reason we call it the Big Slide. The mountain side up above it is cut in a "V" shape and swept clean of trees. There's a slide there about every year, - see? That's what makes that flat where Starr wants to put the camp. The slides carried down the dirt and spread it out in the bottom of the gulch. If he puts his camp there somebody's liable to get killed.

BESS: It would be terrible to put those men in such a place. Do you suppose the Supervisor gave him permission to go ahead with his camp there?

JIM: Maybe I'd better find out. -- Guess I'll call him up.

SOUND (RINGS TELEPHONE)

JIM: (TO PHONE) Hello Peggy - Ring Supervisor Ellsworth in Willow Glen - What's that? (CHUCKLES) Say young lady, my wife's standing right here beside me - (LAUGHS) - Just for my ears alone, eh? -- Hello Bert? This is Jim - Say Bert, did you give Mr. Starr, that engineer for the Broadacres outfit, did you give him permission to put up his camp? --- Well, he's going ahead. Got the cook shack up and a bunk house nearly built. Yes, I told him not to put it there. - It's right under the "Big Slide." -- Yeah, well I think I'll go up there today. -- Goodbye.

(HANGS UP) Well, Bert says to stop him so I guess Starr will have to put his camp some place else.

BESS: And what's your secret with the telephone girl?

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Oh, Peggy likes to kid me -

BESS: Yes and you like to have her kid you too.

JIM: (LAUGHS) - Well - I guess I'll be on my way - Bye, Bess.

(KISSES HER)

BESS: Goodbye Jim -

(FADEOUT WITH SOUND OF DOOR)

(FADEIN WITH RAPS ON DOOR)

BESS: (OPENS DOOR) Why - good morning, Mrs. Spence.

MRS. SPENCE: Howdy do, Mrs. Robbins. I saw Mr. Robbins leave, and thought I'd just run over and visit a minute.

BESS: Come on in the kitchen. (DOOR CLOSES) I haven't finished my breakfast dishes yet.

MRS. S: Oh, that so? I've had mine done for hours.

BESS: Have a chair, over here, Mrs. Spence. I'll have the dishes done in a minute.

MRS. S: Don't hurry on my account. I can visit here as well as in the sittin' room. It was just so nice this morning I had to get out a minute. Been down to the post-office, and over to that new beauty shop-pe. That woman is the awfulest gossip I ever saw, she told me --

BESS: (RATTLING DISHES) I don't like gossip, Mrs. Spence.

MRS. S: No, more me, neither. I wouldn't gossip about nobody - I think its horrid the way people are insinuating about Mary Halloway and -

BESS: Mary Halloway?

MRS. S: Yes, they say its just scandalous the way she cut-up with that young engineer over at that last dance at Mrs. Gay's.

BESS: Why, Mrs. Spence, Mary is a perfect lady, she might have laughed and had a good time with Paul but she wouldn't "cut-up" as the term is usually applied.

MRS.S: That's just what I said, and I'm glad she is goin' with that young Hosmer -- serves Jerry right - he's just gettin' too important lately.

BESS: (INDIGNANT) Mrs. Spence, Jerry is just like my own son. You can't talk that way about him to me.

MRS. S: Well, I don't like the way he acts -- even if he was your son, -- accusin' and arrestin' that poor man Snead for stealin' Mrs. Gay's steer. Mr. Snead is as innocent as I am.

BESS: Why, Mrs. Spence, Jerry didn't have anything more to do with Snead's arrest than Jim, or the rest of the men. They were all together when they caught Snead. And the Sheriff made the arrest, after Snead had admitted his guilt.

MRS. S: Well, anyway he's got no business accusin' me. Mrs. Blair said that Mrs. Simpson said that Jerry said that I'd been buying stolen meat.

BESS: Jerry wouldn't accuse you, I'm sure - but you did buy meat from Snead, didn't you?

MRS. S: Yes, I did, and his prices were might reasonable.

BESS: I'm sure the authorities will be glad to know that when Snead comes to trial.

MRS. S: Well I'm - I'm sure they're welcome to it. (HASTILY) I must run along I heard something about Mrs. Gay today, and I've just got to tell Mrs. Blair about it. (OPENS DOOR) Goodbye, Mrs. Robbins

BESS: Goodbye (DOOR SLAMS) Drat such a woman. (RATTLES DISHES)

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

JIM: (OFF CALLS) Hello, Jerry.

JERRY: Hi, Jim!

JIM: (COMING UP) How's the timber cruising going, son?

JERRY: Got 'er all done. The - whole power-line strip, from the Forest boundary to the tunnel.

JIM: Find much merchantable timber on the right of way?

JERRY: Yeah. Haven't figured up yet, but must be pretty close to 250 thousand feet.

JIM: That's more than I expected. Make an appraisal of the value of it. -- That will mean a little revenue for Uncle Sam's treasury. It will boost our district receipts.

JERRY: By gosh, it's been a tough job. The snow over the divide is a fright. This sun softened it up so it sticks to your snow shoes.

JIM: Pretty warm today. This is the kind of weather for snow slides.

JERRY: Yeah, I started a little one up there on the ridge - 'bout scared me stiff.

JIM: That's really what I came up for today - When you said Starr was building his camp under the big slide.

JERRY: I asked him yesterday if he had his permit and he was sort of evasive in his reply. Sort of intimated that he had authority to go ahead. So I thought I ought to talk to you before I did anything about it.

JIM: Well, let's go up to camp and see what's doing -

JERRY: All right - you know Jim, I can't understand why a man who claims to be an engineer would take such chances.

JIM: He is a good engineer but he has always operated in the open country. He don't recognize the danger. He seems to think I'm trying to get him off that bench for some reason of my own.

JERRY: My gosh, can't he see the scars on the mountain side? That ought to be warning enough for anybody -

JIM: Well, it is the brush that fools him. Hasn't been much snow the last two winters and if any slides came down they were just little ones. Those bushes have grown up there and makes it look kind of covered up. But this year there's some snow in the high country. When I came over Windy Ridge I looked across at the main divide and there's big over-hanging snow combers all along the top of the slope.

JERRY: Yes, and there were little slides coming down all afternoon yesterday. They'll be starting again today as soon as it gets good and warm up there. - Well there's the camp.

JIM: Yes - and he's doing exactly what I told him not to do - I'm afraid Starr's going to be a little hard to deal with.

JERRY: Kind of a bull-headed sort. Likes to have his own way -

JIM: Nice sort of a fellow too -

JERRY: Sure - Prince of a fellow as long as things are going the way he wants 'em to -

JIM: Well, we'll have to find some way to make him want the things that we desire -

JERRY: (LAUGHS) What do you mean - diplomacy or force?

JIM: Diplomacy's usually better -

JERRY: I guess he's in his tent - the flap' open.

JIM: Yeah - (CALLS) Hello - Are you in?

STARR: (OFF) Hello Robbins - Hello Quick. Come right in - glad to see you.

JERRY: Nice warm day.

STARR: Yes - glad to see it too - get rid of this snow. It kind of holds things up.

JIM: I see you've gone ahead with your camp construction.

STARR: (LOUDLY) Yes! - Yes I had to get the men under cover - couldn't fool around with tents in this snow, so I thought I'd go right ahead.

JIM: I'm sorry you did because I think you will find we have pretty good reasons for requiring the preliminary arrangements like permits or --

STARR: Well, of course that sort of thing is all right -- but I've got to get action - I let the head office attend to that sort of thing - I've got to get something started. I've got the dining room built, the bunk house about finished and the barn started I'm going to build a big garage down on the road and a machine shop -

JIM: You didn't like my advice on the location of the camp either -

STARR: No, I looked the situation over - frankly Robbins, I think you're all wet about those snow slides. - Why they've been coming down all around here the last few days but they don't bother us.

JERRY: Did you ever see a real avalanche, Mr. Starr? Just the kind you're sitting under right here?

STARR: (LAUGHS) Oh, don't try to scare me young fellow - I'll take the responsibility

JIM: I don't think you have this thing all straight in your mind, Starr. This camp is going to be here for two, maybe three years - you'll have a lot of men here -

STARR: And that's just the reason I'm going to have the camp right here where it is handy to the work. - I don't need to do a lot of figuring on a simple thing like picking out a place to put the camp.

JIM: Let's get out on the mountainside and look this layout over some more. I don't relish sitting here in this spot anyway.

JERRY: Me either, let's get out of here.

STARR: Well, I'm pretty busy but I'll spend a few minutes - let's go - (WALKING)

JIM: We'll get up on that point of rocks so we can look up the mountain side - Before the day is over I'm going to convince you --

STARR: Now wait a minute Robbins - I'm not a-going to move this camp. I've got it half built and -

JIM: What about the lives of these men?

STARR: I'll take the responsibility -

JIM: Call those men out of there 'till we come back - I'm going to show you something -

STARR: Oh, all right (CALLS) Hey! John - take the gang up and pull down the sleeping tents. Move the beds into the bunkhouse.

VOICE: OK Boss.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) You don't concede very much, do you Starr?

STARR: Well, it'll take them an hour to pull down the tents. We'll be back before that.

JIM: Let's get up on that rock outcrop - (NOISE OF BREATHING HARD IN CLIMBING) We - can get a - pretty good view of the slope - up there.

STARR: (GRUMBLING) You fellows are strong for this climbing stuff - I (BLOWS) know a lot - of other things - I'd rather be doing -

JERRY: (OFF) Yeah - we can get a good view of it here.

JIM: (BLOWING) There! Whew! That was a bit of a climb.

STARR: (BLOWS) Yeah - and what's it going to get us - that's what I want to know -

JERRY: Look at that snow field standing on end and that overhang --

JIM: Here, Starr - take these glasses - I want you to see that snow comb overhanging the top --

STARR: Well what of -- Great Scott the thing's moving now - look! (RUMBLING INCREASING TO A ROAR OF THE AVALANCHE) Those men -

JIM: (YELLS) This way - Run! Run! (HISSING, SWISHING RUMBLE AND ROAR - PASSING) (MEN RUNNING - YELLING) (ROAR DIES) (BEDLAM OF VOICES)

STARR: My heavens! The building's gone!

VOICE: (YELLS - OFF) Over here men - quick!

JIM: Some trouble over there Starr. (RUNS)

STARR: What is it, Ed?

VOICE: Dick was caught - almost buried - we got 'im out.

JIM: Any others, you think?

VOICE: I b'lieve not -

2nd VOICE: (FAINTLY) Ol' Bill was behind me.

STARR: Bill who?

VOICE: Old Bill Blake, I 'xspect.

STARR: (CALLS) Blaa-ake! Anybody seen Bill Blake?

VOICES: No - don't see him etc.

JIM: I'm afraid he's gone, Starr.

STARR: Gone - it can't be - (CRAZILY) Ed, Dick, shovels - get down there! (MEN RUN)

JIM: No use, Starr - if he's down there. (FAINT CALL "HELP") What in the world was that? (CALL REPEATS) It's some one calling for help. - Hi, there, where are you?

VOICE: (MUFFLED TONES) Heyre! Help!

JIM: Well, I'll be darned - where is it?

(CLAMOR OF VOICES)

STARR: (CALLS) Be quiet, men (NOISE DIES)

VOICE: (HELP)

JERRY: Sounds to me like it's in that boiler that's about buried.

JIM: Starr, quick - those shovels - here, men, dig this door open. - Get a bar - Here, give it to me. (GRUNTS) There. (DOOR SLAMS)

JERRY: Wouldn't that jar you?

STARR: Bill Blake or I'm a goat (LAUGHS) (ALL LAUGH- YELL) (NOISE DIES) How did you get in there old timer?

VOICE: Well, I seen 'er comin' and I seen the hole.

JIM: And you just dived in?

VOICE: Sure, had to git some place. (LAUGHTER)

STARR: Well, come on out. (CALLS) All right, Ed, it's tally for today. Call the men in.

(WHISTLE - NOISE DIES)

JERRY: By Golly, Jim, I guess we won't have to make Starr move that building after all.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) No, Jerry, that snow-slide robbed us of a golden opportunity to exercise our powers of persuasion. - Come on - let's go home - Starr won't try to build down there again.

ANNOUNCER: Say, folks, that was a close shave. I'm glad old Bill "Seen" that hole, aren't you? Next week our ranger friends will be with us again. This program is a presentation of the National Broadcasting Company with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

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